



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

MS 1999-13 Frank W. Stokes paintings and drawings

National Anthropological Archives
Museum Support Center
4210 Silver Hill Road
Suitland, Maryland 20746
Business Number: Phone: 301.238.1310
Fax Number: Fax: 301.238.2883
naa@si.edu
<http://www.anthropology.si.edu/naa/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	MS 1999-13 Frank W. Stokes paintings and drawings
Date:	1893-1905 undated
Identifier:	NAA.MS1999-13
Creator:	Stokes, Frank Wilbert, 1858-1955
Extent:	12 Drawings (visual works) (portraits ; charcoal, pencil, crayon and chalk on paper) 11 Paintings (visual works) (oil on canvas)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Image(s): MS 1999-13 Frank W. Stokes paintings and drawings

Administrative Information

Provenance

Frank W. Stokes bequeathed over 200 works of art to the National Collection of Fine Arts (also known as the National Museum of American Art (NMAA) and now known as the Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM)) prior to his death in 1955. The 23 drawings and paintings in this collection were transferred from SAAM to the National Anthropological Archives in 1998.

Related Materials

The Smithsonian American Art Museum holds additional paintings by Frank W. Stokes.

The Department of Anthropology holds objects collected on the Peary expedition, including clothing, sleds, and tools.

Processing Information

Six (6) picture frames dating from the 1960s which held small oil paintings were discarded in 2023.

Preferred Citation

MS 1999-13 Frank W. Stokes paintings and drawings, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Access to the collection requires an appointment.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Biographical Note

Frank Wilbert Stokes (1858-1955) was an American artist best known for his paintings of the polar regions. Stokes began his studies under Thomas Eakins at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia, followed by five years in France as a student at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, the Academie Colarossi and Academie Julian. He accompanied the Peary Relief Expedition to Greenland in 1892 and returned a year later as part of the North Greenland Expedition of 1893-1894. In 1902 he joined the Swedish Antarctic Expedition under Otto Nordenskjöld.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of a total of twenty-three (23) paintings and drawings by Frank W. Stokes dating from 1893-1905. There are four (4) oil paintings of Inuit subjects, seven (7) small studies in oil of Arctic and Antarctic scenery, and twelve (12) portraits in charcoal, pencil, crayon, and chalk of Inughuit men and women in Northern Greenland.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or National Anthropological Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Local Numbers

NAA MS 1999-13

Variant Title

Previously titled: "Frank W. Stokes artwork collection."

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Inughuit [Cape York]
Inuit

Cultures:

Inughuit [Cape York]
Inuit

Types of Materials:

Drawings
Paintings
Works of art

Names:

Peary Relief Expedition of 1892

Places:

Antarctica
Arctic regions
Greenland

Container Listing

	Paintings, 1893-1905, undated Notes: Eleven (11) oil paintings on canvas, including (4) paintings of Inuit subjects and seven (7) small studies of Arctic and Antarctic scenery
Box 1, Folder 1	Cape York, Melville Bay, 1893 August 1 1 Paintings (visual works) (oil on canvas; 5.75 x 9 inches) Notes: NMAA Accession 1954.7.4
Box 1, Folder 2	Looking N. E. To Right of Cape York, Greenland, 1893 August 1 1 Paintings (visual works) (oil on canvas; 5.75 x 9 inches) Notes: NMAA Accession 1954.7.3
Box 1, Folder 3	East End Herbert Island and Greenland Mainland, Inglefield Gulf--Looking South, 1893 August 15 1 Paintings (visual works) (oil on canvas; 5.75 x 9 inches) Notes: NMAA Accession 1954.7.8
Box 1, Folder 4	The Arctic Night--Sketch by Moonlight--Entrance B[owdoin] Bay, Greenland, 1893 December 21 1 Paintings (visual works) (oil on canvas; 5.75 x 9 inches) Notes: NMAA Accession 1955.4.22
Box 1, Folder 5	Bowdoin Bay, Greenland--Looking Across Bay from Camp, 1894 June 9 1 Paintings (visual works) (oil on canvas; 5.75 x 9 inches) Notes: NMAA Accession 1954.7.24
Item 1	Inuit [sic] Seamstresses, 1894 July 1 Paintings (visual works) (oil on canvas, framed; 33 x 29 inches) Notes: NMAA Accession 1950.8.15
Box 1, Folder 6	In Weddell Sea, Antarctica, 1902 February 5 1 Paintings (visual works) (oil on canvas; 5.75 x 9 inches) Notes: NMAA Accession 1954.7.62
Box 1, Folder 7	Eskimo in Kayak, 1905 1 Paintings (visual works) (oil on canvas; 5.75 x 9 inches) Notes: NMAA Accession 1954.2.132
Folder 1	Solitude, undated 1 Paintings (visual works) (oil on canvas; 49.5 x 35 inches) Notes: NMAA Accession 1950.8.3
Folder 2	An Arctic Twilight Encampment, undated 1 Paintings (visual works) (oil on canvas; 36 x 35.5 inches) Notes: NMAA Accession 1955.4.55

Folder 2 [An Eskimo Mending His Sled--Greenland, undated](#)
1 Paintings (visual works) (oil on canvas; 30 x 18 inches)
Notes: NMAA Accession 1955.4.60

Drawings, 1894
Notes: Twelve (12) portraits in charcoal, pencil, crayon, and chalk on paper of Inughuit men and women in Northern Greenland.

Folder 3 [The Men's Quarters in Anniversary Lodge--Bowdoin Bay, Greenland, 1894 April](#)
1 Drawings (visual works) (charcoal and pencil on paper; 18.5 x 12 inches)
Notes: NMAA Accession 1955.4.4

Folder 4 [Ah-Ring-Ah-Doh--Wife of O-To-Ne-Ah, 1894 July 14](#)
1 Drawings (visual works) (chalk on paper; 10.25 x 13 inches)
Notes: NMAA Accession 1955.4.79

Folder 4 [Ung-Meh-Duk-Toe--Boy, 1894 July 16](#)
1 Drawings (visual works) (crayon on paper; 12 x 18 inches)
Notes: NMAA Accession 1955.4.77

Folder 3 [Ung-Meh-Duk-Toe, 1894 July 16](#)
1 Drawings (visual works) (crayon on paper, mounted to paperboard; 10.5 x 15 inches)
Notes: NMAA Accession 1950.8.31

Folder 5 [Kashoo, 1894](#)
1 Drawings (visual works) (crayon on paper, mounted on paperboard; 12 x 18.25 inches)
Notes: NMAA Accession 1950.8.32

Folder 6 [Ah-Me-Ang-O-Nah, 1894](#)
1 Drawings (visual works) (pencil on paper; 9.25 x 12 inches)
Notes: NMAA Accession 1950.8.36

Folder 6 [Sipsoo, 1894](#)
1 Drawings (visual works) (pencil on paper, mounted on paperboard; 18.25 x 12 inches)

Folder 7 [Ko-Man-Op-Ik, 1894](#)
1 Drawings (visual works) (pencil on paper, mounted on paperboard; 12 x 12 inches)
Notes: NMAA Accession 1950.8.35

Folder 7 [O-To-Ne-Ah, 1894](#)
1 Drawings (visual works) (charcoal and crayon on paper; 10 x 14 inches)
Notes: NMAA Accession 1950.8.37

Folder 3 [Ok-Ha-Meh-Ding-Wah \(Man\) and Tah-He-Ah-Wung-Wah \(Boy\), 1894](#)

1 Drawings (visual works) (pencil and charcoal on paper, mounted on paperboard; 19 x 12 inches)

Notes: NMAA Accession 1955.4.3

Also titled: "Two Eskimos"

Folder 8

[Eh-Lee, 1894](#)

1 Drawings (visual works) (crayon on paper, mounted on paperboard; 8 x 11.75 inches)

Notes: NMAA Accession 1950.8.15

Also titled: "Gh-Lee O Boy"

Folder 9

[Ki-U-Wung-Wah, 1894](#)

1 Drawings (visual works) (crayon on paper, mounted on paperboard; 10 x 12 inches)

Notes: NMAA Accession 1955.4.40